

DINOSAUR BENCH

Bloomington Arts
Commission
1989
Hoosierfest
Limestone Bench
Carving
Contest Winner



Dinosaur Bench at Bryan Park.

ARTIST: William Galloway
MEDIUM: Indiana Limestone
DEDICATION YEAR: 1989

ABOUT THE WORK

This bench, meant for sitting, lying, crawling and playing on, represents a Dimetrodon. At 10 feet in length, this sculpture is about the same size as Dimetrodons that wandered the earth 280 million years ago. Originally, the sculpture was meant to be carved in the shape of a Stegosaurus but since Stegosaurus

don't have sail-backs, the artist chose a Dimetrodon so people would have a place to lean their backs. Not wanting to give up the large loop on the bench, a Stegosaurus tail was added, making this bench a hybrid dinosaur of sorts. While no animal quite like this is known to have existed historically, for decades it has been a Bloomington landmark, offering children and adults a place to play and rest.

DID YOU KNOW?

Though no Dimetrodon fossils have been found in Indiana, they did live in the United States about 35 million years before the dinosaurs. Dimetrodons are often mistaken for dinosaurs due to their reptilian appearance but were really pelycosaurs, having lived millions of years before dinosaurs. While dinosaurs eventually evolved into modern day reptiles and birds, Dimetrodons are actually an early ancestor of modern day mammals.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

William Galloway has been working as a sculptor for 25 years. He started at Bybee Stone Company before founding the Angelo Stone Company in Nashville, Ind. He collaborated with three other sculptors on new limestone griffins for the New York Times' former headquarters in New York to replace deteriorating century-old original sculptures lining a square entranceway of the building.

Support from



City of Bloomington Public Art Trail

BRYAN PARK GATE

DID YOU KNOW?

Stone Belt Arc has an Art & Craft division. Clients create fine art pieces, handmade crafts, and finely crafted wood furniture that is then sold online and throughout the county. This exceptional program has allowed individuals with disabilities an outlet through art to express themselves and work toward self-sufficiency.



Entrance to Bryan Park Tots Playground.

ABOUT THE WORK

The brightly colored animals greeting children as they enter the Bryan Park Tots Playground were designed and created as part of the installation of new playground equipment in Bryan Park. Created collaboratively by local artist Joe LaMantia and clients from Stone Belt Arc, a local nonprofit that provides education and support to persons with disabilities, this project is one of many such public art collaborations that can be seen throughout Bloomington. Other projects include *Animal Island* along the B-Line Trail and *Hidden Jewel* at the Lower Cascades Park Playground.



Stone Belt artist Tom Brantley paints the gate.

ARTISTS: Joe LaMantia and Stone Belt Artisans in collaboration with Bruce's Welding and Fabrication

MEDIUM: Mixed Media

DEDICATION YEAR: 2008

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Joe LaMantia, a Bloomington citizen and artist-in-residence at Stone Belt Arc, has been involved in numerous community art projects with the City of Bloomington, BEAD and Stone Belt. In 2007, he was honored with an Arts Leadership Award for Arts in Education by the Bloomington Area Arts Council for his collaborative arts projects in the community. He provides local schools and children's organizations the opportunity to plan and create artworks, illustrating the potential of collaboration between children and adults.



Richard Laraway and Tasia Tanier-Gesner at the opening ceremony for the City of Bloomington Bryan Park Tots Playground. Photo courtesy of Stone Belt Arc



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